## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /092 W

----- 037532

R 090700Z SEP 76 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9017 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW USLO PEKING

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IR, CH, UR

SUBJ: IRANIAN PRESS CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

REF: TEHRAN 8932 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL REPORTED RECENT INCREASE IN ANTI-SOVIET EXPRESSIONS BY IRANIAN PRESS. SUCH FRONT-PAGE STORIES HAVE CONTINUED DURING PAST WEEK. LATEST EXAMPLE IS SEPTEMBER 7 TEHRAN JOURNAL ARTICLE DRAWING ON WALL STREET JOURNAL COPY STATING THAT, "MOSCOW WANTS TO BUILD HISTORY'S STRONGEST MILITARY POWER."

2. IRANIAN PRESS HAS NOW GIVEN PROMINENT PLAY TO PRC ATTACKS
ON SOVIET COMMENTARY ABOUT IRAN DEFENSE POLICIES. SEPTEMBER 8
TEHRAN JOURNAL HAS FRONT-PAGE STORY HEADLINED, "SOVIET MEDDLING
IN IRAN--CHINA." THIS ARTICLE NOTES THAT NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY'S
"CATEGORICAL SUPPORT" OF IRAN'S DEFENSE PLAN FOLLOWED ISVESTIA
REPORT THAT GOI MILITARY PROGRAMS WERE "UNJUSTIFIABLE." MFA CHINA
DESK OFFICER CONSIDERS CHINESE STATEMENTS TO BE
CONTINUATION OF PRC'S SUPPORT FOR IRANIAN DEFENSE
POLICIES IN CONTEXT OF SINO-SOVIET RIVALRY RATHER
THAN ANY NEW INITIATIVE ON PART OF PRC.

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COMMENT: BY PROMINENTLY REPLAYING FOREIGN ARTICLES

CRITICAL OF USSR, IRANIAN PRESS IS ABLE TO INTENSIFY ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN WITHOUT EXPOSING IRAN TO KIND OF SOVIET REACTION WHICH MIGHT RESULT FROM DIRECT CRITICISM BY GOI-GUIDED NEWSPAPERS.
HELMS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ANTISOVIET

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Subject: IRANIAN PRESS CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, IR, CH, UR To: STATE

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